A GREAT CHURCH CONCLAVE

Third Decennial Meeting of the Methodists in London.

The Ecumenical Conference to Be Called to Order in City Road Chapel Next Wednesday - John Wesley's Pulpit Still in Use.

Representative Methodists from all over the world are making their way to London, where, on next Wednesday, the third Methodist Ecumenical Conference will meet. Once every ten years Methedists hold such a world's conference to discuss questions of moment to the denomination, and to compare notes as to the status of all its branches. Ten years ago the conference met in this city in the Metropolitan Methodist Church. The first conference, twenty years ago, was held in City Road Chapel, London, which is also to be the meeting place this year.

City Road Chapel is the birthplace of Methodism. It was there that John Wesley preached, and he is buried within its walls. The old pulpit from which the founder of Methodism spoke is still in use, and from it the conference sermon will be preached by Bishop Galle way, of the Methodist Church, South. Five hundred delegates will sit in the conference, 300 being assigned to the Western Section and 200 to the Eastern. The Western Section comprises all branches of the Methodist Church in the United States and Canada, including their foreign work, and the Eastern is composed of British Methodism and affiliated conferences and mission fields,

Delegates to the Ecumenical Conference of this year will represent nearly 1,000,000 more members than did those to the Washington conference. In 1891, when the latter body met, the total number of members of Methodist Churches in the world was 6,503,959. Of these 5.382,375 belonged to the American Churches. In the ten years Methodist membership in the world has grown to 7 402 913 the American figures being 6,201,250. There has been a proportionate growth in the number of churches, Ten years ago there were 77,196 in the whole world, 57,465 being in America. There is now a total of 83,870 churches, of which 58,685 are on this side of the Atlantic Ocean, or are affiliated with the church organizations here. Methodists in the United States are divided into seventeen organizations, of which the largest is the body known popularly as the Methodist Church, North. This had at last reports 2,746,191 members while the next largest body is the MethodistChurch, South, with a membership of 1,470,520. There are several organizations of colored Methodists, the largest having 675,462 members.

The growth of the Methodist Church

in the United States has been largely necomplished in the century just closed. While the work began in New York in 1766, when, at the call of a godly woman, a few Methodists met in a sail loft, organized a church, and made plans for the erection of a \$3,000 place of worship, at the close of the eighteenth cenin the United States, although the denomination then ranked third among Protestant bodies here in number of unicants Soon after the beginning of the nineteenth century, however, it advanced to first place in numbers, and largest body in the United States is possible liberty of thought and action, the Baptist, but the Methodist leads It in membership by nearly a million and | identify himself with measures that make in 1766 gave little more promise of ecclesiastical wealth than did the handful of people in the movement give of numerical supremacy; but in the value his own palace, took the step that Hintze of church property the growth has been Ribeiro's Ministry would have avoided, 54 351 Methodist churches in the United | power that underlies his easy di States at the opening of the new cen- Unfortunately, or fortunately, according tury own property valued at \$22,000,000, to the belief of the individual, he stopped and this figure does not include the property of universities, colleges, and hospitals conducted under Methodist

The benevolent societies and enterprises of the Methodist Church in the United States were all started in the nineteenth century, as is also the case with the young people's and other ors of the denomination. A few figures will show the extent to which this phase of denominational work The Epworth League has 19,-\$30 local organizations, with 1,860,000 members. The Sunday School Union has 21,686 schools enrolled. The Tract Society distributes about 12,000,000 pages of literature annually. The Methodist Book Concern made sales in the last fifty years aggregating over \$60,000,000. The Freedmen's Aid Society has disbursed \$5,200,000 and has aided 201,000 students. The Missionary Soclety has apent \$36,000,000 for the evangelization of the world. The Board of Church Extension has aided 11,801 churches, to the amount of \$6,588,430. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society has 5,000 auxiliary organizations, lliary secieties, with 80,000 members. A recent work, which involves a large amount of Bulley, is the raising of twentieth century tunds in both the Northern and Southern bodies of the Church. The idea of these funds originated with the Weslevan Methodists of England, who set out to raise about \$5,000,000 at the beginning of the new century. The Northern body in the United States adopted the idea, but raised the stint to \$20,000,000, the sum to be devoted to educational, philanthropic, endowment, and debt paying purposes. Twelve million dollars has been subscribed to the fund, and it is expected that the remaining \$8,000,000, or most of it, will be pledged before the end of the year, Methodists South have raised \$1,500,000 for similar pur-

Educational work in the Methodist Church has kept pace with growth along other lines. At the beginning of the nineteenth century there was but one Methodist institution of learning, and its building had just been burned. At its close Methodists had fifty-six colleges and universities, twenty-five mission schools, seventy-two preparatory and training schools and ninety nine foreign misson schools. Grounds and buildings were to the value of over \$17,000,000, held by the various schools and colleges; endowments to the amount of \$15,000,000 were enjoyed, and over 50,000 pupils were being instructed by 3,000 teachers, at a total cost of ove \$2,000,000 annually. Over 10,000 young people have been belped to an educa n by the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, North, at an expenditure of over \$1,000,000.

In Great Britain and in British pos-

sessions Methodist growth has not been so marked as in America, although in point of membership the denomination ranks well with other evangelical churches. In Great Britain and Ireland, including foreign missions supported by the churches there, Metho dists have a membership of about 1,290 000, the larger number of which are in the Wesleyan Methodist body, while the remainder is divided between the Primitive Methodists, the United Metho Free Churches, the Methodis New Connexion, and several smaller organizations. The Australasian Wesleyan Methodist Church, including the minor Methodist churches united with it, has a membership of 137,715, and it is estimated that the adherents of the Australasian Church include over onetenth of the population of that section.

AN EASY-GOING MONARCH. King Carles of Portugal Devoted to Music and Pleasure.

At first sight it is not easy to rethe popular King of Portugal with any political movement. He is essentially a man of pleasure, not in the sense that conveys discredit, but in the sense that appeals very strongly to the imagination of the average athletic Englishman. He is a first-class tennis player and an enthudastic yachisman; he has something of the Prince of Monaco's appreciation for the wonders of the sea, and is a collector of many interesting curiosities from its depths. He is reputed to be one of the est shots in Europe, equally deadly in his alm with rifle or shotgun, and able to hit birds in flight with a rifle bullet. He is an artist of no mean gifts, and as I write some of his most recent paintings are on view at the Lisbon Salon, in the Square of the National Library. The Paris Expo-sition of last year awarded one of his pictures a silver medal. If not an active per former upon any musical instrument, like his father, King Luis, Dom Carlos is a keen judge of muste and is a regular patron of the opera. Bull fighting is another of the pastimes he supports, though he does not permit the Portuguese arenas to witness the sickening sights that are opular throughout Spain. The bulls have their horns bound in leather, and neither they nor the horses are killed in the con-tests, which become little more than skilled exhibitions of horsemanship and dex-terity. Every charitable institution finds a patron in the King, who, with his Queen, the beautiful Marie Amelia, laughter of the late Count of Paris, does all he can to alleviate the distress which is rife throughout so poor a country as Portugal. Small wonder, then, that when the King

goes among his people, as he does every day with little state, his greeting is as hearty as is consistent with respect. Between King and people a complete under-standing prevails; they know him for an ensy-going, good-hearted constitutional and he knows them for wellsatisfied citizens, who give little heed to Republicans on the one hand or Miguelists on the other, who are incapable of harboring the violent elements that exist and even thrive in other Latin countries. There are differences of opinion in Portugal just as in other states, there is some jobbery and some discontent, taxes are heavy debts are many and resources are few, but, outside the ranks of statesmen, few people take an active interest in political concerns, and when they do their interest takes theoretical rather than practical form. The great masses of Portugal are quite equally without the vices that tury there were only 65,000 Methodists breed anarchy. King Carlos is safe everywhere among them; few if any Continental sovereigns can go so securely among

Socially, then, King Carlos is a great

success; politically, or at least in home politics, he is hardly a force to be reckadvanced to first place in numbers, and oned with. In sympathies he is directly easily holds that rank today. The next Liberal, inclined to give his subjects all and quick to respond to the invitation to a half. The erection of a \$3,000 church for freedom. Witness his action when the anti-Jesuit movement broke out in Oporto and threatened for the moment to spread all over the country. He disregarded the forces that were at work in as wonderful as to membership. The and showed in a few decisive actions the there, his natural tendency to leave things alone prevailing over his sudden enthusiasm. When he ceased to give the antiment dwindled down to what it had been in the beginning, a party development born in Oporto, the stronghold of Portuguese Liberalism. Again, when the British Protestants in Portugal appealed to him, through a London deputation, at the time of the Queen's funeral, to permit them to make converts in Lisbon and else where, he responded readily to their as peal; but nothing has been done. So far as can be seen he prefers to stand out-side politics, to maintain strictly the role of constitutional monarch, leaving to their own departments the legislative, exing the most sparing use of the "moderating" authority with which he is endowed by the Portugal constitutional charter. In show a hand. Portuguese foreign affairs are very limited in their area.

Argola and East Africa are of the first Importance—the former as the centre of Portugal's rubber and cotton trade, the second as a possession whose political value may be found greatly in excess of its commercial possibilities. The lit was then entirely dismantled and islands scattered about the great ocean used by the soldiers for a horse stable. and flying the Portuguese flag are also with 18,690 members. The Woman's desired by countries whose needs for coal-Home Missionary Society has 3,600 aux-ing stations are in excess of those of Portugal. The Azores, Madeira, Cape Verde in the Atlantic and Goa in the Indian Ocean are pearls of great price when set against the hundred and sixty-odd millions that Portugal's external debt. King Carlos is too shrewd a man to fail in understanding of his country's political worth, or in knowledge that Great Britain is the best market in the world for the disposal of valuable assets. He is the mainstay of the Anglo-Portugue understanding, and would appear in this instance to have abandoned the laissezfaire attitude that serves for all matters

Portugal is passing through a critica period. She has a great national debt, an undeveloped country and uneducated people; she is raising too much wine and not enough corn; her ministers are at their wits' end to deal with the situation. In these questions the King dares not interfere; he does not show any sign that an reach the outside observer that he takes special cognizance of them. years of depression may have hardened him, or the claims of the outdoor life that suits him so well may have left no om for other considerations. Be this as it may, the fact remains that he apset his ministers, and yet he maintains

his popularity.

His attitude is to be regretted, in view of the opportunities that lie before him of bringing the Portuguese policy, so far as it concerns internal industry, more into line with the urgent needs of the country. He is reputed to have the power, if he had the will, to bring about by attract to Portugal the financial support required by the country for the estab-lishment of its credit upon a sound basis and the development of its rich agricul-tural possibilities throughou; all Portu-gal under modern conditions and meth-ods that would enable the country to compete with the rest of the world.—Lon-don Chronicle.

THE OLD POHICK CHURCH.

A Project to Restore a Historic Edifice in Virginia.

Plans Drawn by Washington, Who Was a Vestryman for Twenty Years - A Pulpit With a Sound ing Board-Once Used as a Stable.

Among the score of colonial churches in the State of Virginia none is more interesting than Pohick, or Mount Ver non, Church. It is situated in Truro parish, Fairfax county. This parish formerly covered Fairfax, Alexandria, and Loudoun counties. Pohick Church has an interest for all lovers of history because of its connection with the great nen of the colonial period.

It has passed through two wars and suffered in each. Its vestry book, which is also the record book of Truro parish, covers a period of about fifty years-1732-85. This book was lost for fifty years, and recovered about twenty years ago by the historiographer of the diocese of Virginia, the late Rev. Dr. Philip Slaughter. It is now kept, by order of the vestry, in the safe at Mount Vernon, under the care of the superintendent, H. H. Dodge.

The present church building was completed in 1772. It is built of brick burn ed in the yard near by, with walls eighteen inches thick, covered with ivy and surrounded by tall old trees. The original building was a wooden one, two miles south of the present site, and on the other side of Pohick Run, from which the church took its name. The former edifice fell into decay about 1769. and the present location was chosen.

History relates that when the change of site was made, George Mason used his eloquence in favor of the old one, and George Washington answered him with a carefully drawn map, showing that the new place was the centre of population. This argument won, and the present location was chosen. It is just here, according to tradition, that idea at the moment that the eleven pris-Washington divided his army on the way to Yorktown in 1781, Pohick Church being at the forks of the road He took a part of his army by way of Colchester and part by Occoquan village, both lying on Occoquan Run. The building committee, appointed in 1769, included George Washington, George Mason, and George William Fairfax.

Washington draw the ground plan and front elevation, the plans for the pews and the placing of the pulpit. When the church was finished in 1772-73 the pews were sold. George Mason buying two and George Washington buying first one and afterward another from Lund Washington. The pews were all marked in raised leters with the names of the owners. One pew, that to the north of the pulpit, was given by the vestry to the parson, Lee Massey, then rector, and his successors forever. The high pulpit on the north wall, with its sounding board overhead, both firmly bolted to a beam let into the wall, was a marked feature of this church. It also had a reredos back of the communion table on the east wall, on which were inscribed in letters of gold the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. The font, cut from the granite of the neighborhood, was large enough to "discreetly dip" the children, according to the rubric in

the Prayer Book. Washingtoon was a vestryman for twenty years of Truro parish, was ac-tive in the building of four churches in Fairfax and Alexandria counties, and was also a warden for several years. He let nothing keep him from the House of God on the Lord's Day. Truro parish had several ministers prior to the Revolution, of whom the Rev. Charles Green and the Rev. Lee Massey were the most prominent. Parson Massey was rector at the time Pohick Church was built and continued with it up to

After the Revolution the services at Pohick Church were held irregularly, and Washington became an attendant at Christ Church, Alexandria, which church he had also been instrumental in building and in which he had bought a pew as soon as it was completed. During the period Parson Weems that queer genius who wrote the first history of Washington and the history of Marion, preached occasionally, though he was never settled as its rector.

In 1837 the Bishop reported to the Episcopal Convention of Virginia a visitation made to Pohick Church. It was in a bad plight, he said. Its doors were found open, inviting every wild beast of the field to enter. His appeal moved the Rev. Mr. Johnson to go out of the foreign politics he is equally rejuctant to | State and raised money sufficient to put the church in good order again. students from the Episcopal Theological Seminary and others ministered regularly there.

In the civil war the situation of the church made it a prominent picket post. It was then entirely dismantled and About 1870 Theodore R. Wetmore, of New York, with the advice and assistance of Bishop Johns, of Virginia, and Cassius F. Lee, raised money enough to make the building comfortable for services. In 1881 the Rev. S. A. Wallis became rector, and under his ministry a good congregation and Sunday school were gathered within its walls. The vestry book, communion service (which is large and massive, made in 1774), and the font were all found and restored to the church. Mr. Wetmore also added to the church property by securing considerable land and building a rectory.

Mr. Wailis was succeeded by the Rev Mr. Kloman, who was rector for two years. The present rector, Rev. Everard Meade, came to Pohick about four years ago. The church now shelter from Sunday to Sunday a good congre gation and Sunday school. The people are poor, being chiefly engaged in agriculture. It is a church in which "to the poor the Gospel is preached." The church property is a valuable one, con taining forty-three acres, on which are gituated the church, a parish hall, given by Mrs. Hearst, of California, and large and comfortable rectory. Now it proposed to restore Pohick

Church and to make it as near the church of Washington's day as is compatible with modern ideas of comfort and convenience. The Daughters of the American Revolution have taker the matter in hand, and the treasurer Judge J. K. M. Norton, of Alexandria, reports a small fund on hand and growing slowly. There is immediate need of work on the church, as it is in bad

come when this house of God, built by the Washingtons, Masons, Lewises, Fairfaxes, Hendersons, and all those

whose names are connected with it. shall be restored to its former beauty. Surely patriotism or reverence for the greatest of patriots, if not religion,

HOW STEYN ESCAPED.

Surprised by the British, He Ran in His Nightgown.

But I must tell you how the capture of Steyn's eleven came about on the mornng of the 12th instant. General De Lisle's olumn had passed through Reltz, in the ortheastern part of the Orange River Colony, a few days previously. General Broadwood, with the Seventh Dragoon Guards, the Fourth Imperial Yeomany, and the Third Dragoons, I think, were near the place when they received an order from Lord Kitchener to turn back and seach the town. The columns had been annoyed by snipers, but these had drawn off somewhat when Reitz was passed. Broadwood turned back as directed, intending to surround the place by daybreak. It is a square or rectangular built town, of straggling dimension with about 100 houses of all sorts. luckily the scouts, about 5 a. m., followed some loose horses, thinking they were part of their own force. When the mistake was discovered day was breaking, so less than a dozen of the Seventh Dragon Guards turned and rode for the town, led by Lieutenant Shaw. They saw tent behind a house in a garden, with a fire smoking near, and early effee be-ing prepared. As they charged up about an equal number of Boers came running out, as if they had suddenly tumbled out of their beds. "Hands up!" our fellows yelled, and the majority of the Boers in stantly compiled.

One of them, now identified as General

or Commandant Cronje, reached into the tent for a rifle, but the flash of a dragoon's sword made him desist, and another Boer found his check hot from showing a disposition to flee. The whole affair was over in a minute, and Broadwood's supporters and main body were still far away. The scouts had no clear idea, nor had anybody else, I am told, what was expected to be found in Reitz or that Steyn was anywhere in the neighberhood. They imagined they were going back to round up some refugees ers, or both, and not a man had the least oners in night clothes and partly clad were the members of Steyn's Cabinet or war council. To Lieutenant Shaw and his men their shirted captives were but ordinary burghers, and they were unaware they had caught Steyn's younger brother, the Orange Free State secretary treasurer, Mr. Brain, Commandant Fraser, General Cronje, Generals Darvel and

Wessels, or Mr. Fisher. Moreover, creeping away around the corner of an adjoining house, bareheaded, in night dress, and with only socks upon his feet, was a tall, stout, swarthy, full-bearded, partly baldheaded, elderly man. If anybody saw him he probably smiled at the spectacle, and did not trouble in particular about the unclass burgher more or less. But the skulking personage was one other than ex-President Steyn himself, now reduced to this woeful plight. A Boer companion nearby found him a pony and assisted Steyn to mount, for the ex-President prefers a wheeled vehicle to horseback. With a cut and a kick the Eoer sent Steyn adrift upon a most uneasy seat. If, in the hurry, there had been a saddle thrown upon the pony, it was ungirthed, and had turned beneath in a stride or two.

Then the unwonted apparition appeared in the one long main street of Reitz of a dark, heavy figure of a man, bareheaded and barelimbed, with a flowing shirt, clinging to a horse's neck, and galloping Sergeant Cobb, the crack shot of the Seventh Dragoon Guards, repeated the chalcause the oil supplied the men was of the spring and the striker.

Owing to the intense cold similar mishaps had previously occurred with the men's rifles. Lieutenant Shaw snapped The earl his pistol, but missed. There was more laughing than vexation at the man's escape till later on it was found that it was Steyn himself who had got away. When the columns came up scouts were des-patched after him, but Steyn had been met a few miles out by three or four brother Boers, who had helped him upon a better and more comfortable mount and conducted him by Kaffir tracks into the kopjes. Subsequently the Cabinet prisoners were brought into Heilbron, when Brain was allowed to visit his fami-Thence they were taken via Elandsfontein, where I saw them, to Pretoria, and lodged in the old Birdcage upon the north side of the town. Their escort comprised Major Deltz, Lieutenauts Shaw and Sullivan, and sixteen men of the Seventh Dragoon Guards. Since their arrival here they have been visited by their friends and those willing to give their parole have been told that it will be taken, and they will be permitted to go about for a few efore being sen. elsewhere. With the Cabinet was captured all the State papers, including correspondence with Reltz, Botha, De Wet, etc., Steyn's clothes, a number of refugees, including women and children, and several hun dred pounds in gold, with about £12,000 in bluebacks. The prisoners have recovered their equanimity, and Brain thinks that the end of the war is very close at hand. Morris, has for three years past resorted to a novel, yet pretty method of communi-

Tribute to a Negro

On the 6th day of August, A. D. 1901. there passed from our midst an aged colored citizen of Anderson, Gromes county. lexas; and so upright was his waik hrough life that we deem it but right that we, some of the citizens of Anderto the world and more especially to the egro race, what the white people, not only in this community, but in all comolor be black, who bears himself at all ty is gotten over by the employment

imes as a man should. river of death was Alexander Terrell. He | takes a couple of more pigeons with him. as lived in our town for years, has stood by the white people of this community in plague and war, has realized his own position in life, and has not attempted to depart from it, but still has and acted from principle, not fear. His or the decrepit old father or mother, apwould be a study worth life well written the while of his race, for it would point to the way, the only way, along which the colored race can advance as the white the sick chamber in its little basket to race advances; and Alexander Terrell, realizing that fact, made it his duty and

say what we will.

It is our desire herein to testify to the greed pigeons, all from the best strains, worth of old Uncle Alex and to the noexample he has set his brethren of the negro race,

John Wickey, R. P. Hill, B. J. Hill M. M. Cone, Dudley Brown, J. H. Kennard, W. G. Neblett, G. B. Kennard, W. S. Brown, D. Dickson, W. F. Steinhagen, G. P. Black, T. C. Buffington, J. R. Martin, W. W. Meachim, J. G. McDonald, sr., J. G. McDonald, jr., J. T. Smith, U. S. Womack, W. L. Campbell, John L. Bradley.

-Houston Post.

THE CORONATION CLAIMS.

Many Quaint Survivals of the Picturesque Past in Britain.

Commercial Instinct Always Strong at Crowning of Rulers-How Many of the Demands Arose-Sentimen and Loyalty Not Always Evident.

Though lovers of the picturesque will regret that the English Court of Claims has been shorn of most of its duties, it must be remembered that the making of a claim is not of itself a symptom of loyalty. At the coronation of James II many of the claims were remarkable less for sentiment than for commercial instinct. Even the Lord Great Chamberlain in 1883 made this proposition to the Court: That he should bring the King his clothes on the morning of the coronation and should accomplish his tollet. For this simple but highly honorable service his terms were forty yards of velvet (for a robe), the King's bed and bedding (for no speci-fied purpose), and also the furniture of his chamber where he lay the night before, with his wearing apparel and nightgown. His remuneration for serving the King before and after dinner he fixed at "the basins and towels and the cup of assay." But the court, without disput-ing his title to perform the functions he 2s. 10 6s. 6d. per message.—Tit-Bits. desired, regarded his price as extortionate. While allowing him the material for a robe, this semi-judicial body drew ed him £200 in lieu of the nightgown and other knicknacks.

The Earl of Derby had, it appears, acquisitive tastes precisely similar to those of the Lord Great Chamberlain. But he got nothing at all, the Court of Claims in this way: With several newspaper aughing him to scorn. The Lord of the Manor of Lyston, in Essex, purposed making wafers for the King and Queen and serving them to their Majesties himself. So admirable did he deem his wa-fers that he asked in exchange for them all the instruments of silver and other

In fact, he immediately hit upon a very likely person for the purpose. He found

robe claimed to have received from his deputy a pall of cloth of gold and to carry it to the altar for the King to offer. He also, for some covert reason, requested that his deputy, of whose well-being he seems to have been extremely solici-tous, should attend near garter king of neatly dressed in a robe of scarlet cloth with a gold crown embroidered on the left sleeve. The Court of Claims would not hear of any such suggestions, and told the master of the King's great wordrobe that he could go to law about

The master of the horse seems to have been a man of extraordinary versatility. He felt himself competent to attend the coronation in the irrelevant position of ing his duty in a capacity for which a master of the horse would seem to be ob-viously unfitted he demanded "to have all the silver dishes served on that day belonging, and to take assay of the King's

meat at the kitchen dresser bar,"
In spite of considerable opposition from the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Derby Thyn succeeded in his application to carmadly to the eastward. He had to pass ry the King's spurs. He claimed by right the corner where some of Lieutenant of descent from a very ancient Earl of Shaw's men were. A challenge rang out Pembroke. And if the carrying of the for him to halt, yet not Steyn, but the golden spurs be a part of the coronation horse, was in charge of that wild John of Edward VII that privilege will proba-Glipin ride. I am told Steyn would have bly be accorded to Lord Grey de Ruthyn, gladly stopped, but could not, and looked pitifully as if he would have liked to.

At the coronation of Queen Victoria this pitifully as if he would have liked to. deputy to the Baroness Grey de Ruthyn. A curious tenure was that under which lenge, and at ten paces lifted his rifle to bring the horse or rider down. But the By virtue of one molety its lord claimed weapon missed fire. Slipping out the to hold the basin and ewer to the King cartridge, he put in another, but the secwhen he washed before dinner and the ond also missed fire. And why? Be- towel by virtue of another molety of the cause the oil supplied the men was of in-ferior quality and had frozen, blocking ing to pay the whole of his rent, the court them is so abs

> ambitious but well-meaning man. All he net most of the weird tales of Western proposed doing was to appease the debates that might arise in the King's jokers and vaudeville performers have in-house on this day; to keep the doors of vented. The result is that a great many possible task of peacemaker. Not an ewer nor a nightcap did he mention. But his sion. offer was declined on the very credible

> ground that it was unprecedented. The Lord of the Manor of Ashlee, Norfolk, had quite an American fondness for royal souvenirs. He expressed a comprehensive wish for all the disulinen. But, he being unprovided with any | hall, to decide upon a name. As each man sort of evidence, the Court of Claims

The Duke of Norfolk, as Earl of Arundel and Lord of Kenninghall Manor, claimed to perform by deputy the office of chief butler of Engiand, and to save for his fees the best gold cup and cover with all the vessels and wine remaining under the bar, and all the pots and cups except those of gold or silver, in the wine cella

NOVEL PIGEON POSTS The Fleet Birds Are Put to Many Valuable Uses.

An American physician, Dr. Frank S. cating with distant patients. This enterprising doctor has trained a number of pigeous, which he uses with marked suc-

cess for delivering messages between pa-

The doctor is in practice at the little

town of McCool Junction, in Nebraska, and many of his patients reside ten, uld by this means make known twenty, and even fifty miles away, urally it is impossible for him to visit them daily, yet it is often desirable for him to know the pulse and temperature of munities, think of a man, though his certain patients once a day. This difficulpigeons. When the doctor visits a ranch old man who has passed over the man's house far away from the town he He leaves them at the house with instructions to the head of the family or nurse how to take the necessary symptoms, fill up the simple form, and release the bird. The physician has found, too as a man should that the patients, be they the cooing babe preciate and learn how to love these little feathered pets. Before the "home take leave of the sick one. Dr. has a very fine loft at McCool Junction desire to preserve a friendly feeling in his heart for the white people of this community, and friendship draws friendship, the doctor is immediately apprised of the

> in this up-to-date loft. Another interesting pigeon-post is that adopted on the steamers of the Compagnie Generale Trans-Atlantique, March, 1999, passengers by these steam-'ers from America have been enabled to ommunicate with their friends when 30 miles and more from port by pigeons. As a rule the birds are liberated this side of the Scilly Isles, a distance of about to Zie miles from Rennes, where the com

pany's loft is situated. As an instance of the swift flight of the birds it is inter-esting to note that on July 23 last the pigeons that left the Touraine at 5 a.m., arrived at 2 p. m. the same day, after having traveled 224 miles; and on Septem-ber 9 last, ten birds sent from the Lorraine at 5 a. m. reached home in the even ing, after a flight of 259 miles, bringing with them twenty-five telegrams from

assengers. During last year 190 passengers by this carried by the birds. The messages ar photographically reduced to micro dimensions and mounted on a thin three centimetres in breadth and five it in a small celluloid tube and attached by a light kid band, provided with an automatic button, such as one gloves, to the bird's leg. On arrival the photograph is enlarged, each despatch being printed separately and sent to its final destination, many hours before the steamer arrives.

For seven years a unique pigeon-post has been in operation between Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island, and Los Angeles, in California, a distance of about fifty miles. Over twenty miles of his distance is across the Pacific Ocean. In the ordinary course five hours are required to travel between the two towns, but the pigeons often cover the distance in less than an hour. Private messages, business orders, etc., are forwarded at prices varying from

WAS SLIGHTLY MISTAKEN.

The Bright Newspaper Man Sent a Stranger to Prison. Several years ago I was unwittingly the

men I was sitting in the Central police station when there entered a rather genteelly dressed man, who did not seem to understand a word of English. He ad-dressed the magistrate in French, and vaults where a hundred millions of that official immediately asked: "Any A bright idea was that of the Lord of the Manor of Bardolf, in Addington, Surrey. He claimed the right of finding a man to make a mess of grout in the King's kitchen. His claim being allowed, he had no difficulty in finding the man. could catch was "Maison de Correction." I told his honor that the man wanted to the King's master cook. All this he did go to the house of correction, and at once absolutely free of charge. the magistrate, remarking, "I guess I The master of the King's great ward- can accommodate him," wrote out a selfcommitment for three months, and hand-ed it to the man, who then departed. It was then the winter season, and nothing more was thought of the matter, as it was not unusual for persons to have themselves committed to the institution. I learned afterward that the man took

his commitment to the Correction, and was immediately attired in one of the striped suits and placed in a cell. He offered no particular opposition, but thought that the procedure was one of the regu-His friends missed him, howover, and a general alarm was sent out that night to all the police stations. The next morning he was served with breakfast along with the other inmates, and seemed to enjoy the experience. The magistrate at the Central was asked whether he knew anything about the case, and he recalled having sent to the Corection the previous day a man who anwered the description. His friends starttheir missing guest sweeping one of the corridors. Explanations followed, and the man was soon released. It seems he came here to study the various penal institutions, and what he wanted when he called on the magistrate was a permit to visit the Correction. As one of his friends said otherwise at the opportunity of ascertaining by personal experience the methods Ledger.

TALES OF OSHKOSH.

The Wisconsin Town Advertised All

Oshkosh, Wis., is one of the most advertised places in the world. There are declined to allow him to pay more than one moiety. It accepted his offer to hold the towel.

gettable as "Oshkosh." Those two short, harsh syllables carry such suggestions of barbarism in their very sound that they The earl marshal of the period was an have attracted to themselves like a mag-Wisconsin ought to disprove that impres-

There is a local myth about the manne in which se curious a name was given to the town that is too characteristic of the place to be passed over. They say that the city fathers had a meeting in the public tavern, that being the only avail came in out of the bitter cold he drained off a glass of the favorite drink of the region at that time, "hot Scotch." Before ng the whole company began to call out for a glass around every time a newcomer arrived, with the natural result that the business of the assembly did not get on very fast. At last in walked the mayor who was also the Methodist parson, crying out: "Well, boys, what name have you decided upon?" Whereupon the whole company responded with one voice;

"Hosh Skosh! Hosh Skosh!" The first settlers gave their town the delightfully inappropriate name, Athens. About twenty miles farther south, at the bottom of Lake Winnebago, was the rival settlement of Fond du Lac, whose French name and former association with French traders and missionaries gave it n real advantage in drawing the trade of the Indians. The shrewd Yankees of Athens determined to offset that advantage by an appeal to Indian vanity. At a was proposed and formally voted that the settlement should oe named in honor of the great Oshkosh, chief of the Winneba-

From that time Oshkosh rapidly outstripped its older neighbor. In so doing it initurally drew upon itself the envy of the citizens of Fond du Lac, who have ever since been bitter against their stronger rival. It was the imaginative editor of a Fond du Lac paper who first drew attention to the possibilities in the word "Osh-kosh," and who first started many of the wild tales about that city. This editor nce solemnly asserted in his paper that a Methodist minister, riding into Oshkosh shoners coming out with his clothes torn, his hat gone, his arm in a sling, his no smashed in, and part of one ear bitten

"What's the trouble?" saked the min-

"Oh, just been over to Oshkosh havin' some fun with the boys." "Why, my dear fellow, what will your

wife say when she sees you? "Say, parson," said the fellow, in a confidential whisper, as he pulled out of his pockets part of a finger and various other bloody pieces of human anatomy, "what do you spose this feller's wife will say

do you spose this felier's wife will say when she sees him?"

That yarn was reprinted everywhere, and made Oshkosh widely known as the place to go to "to have some fun with the boys." To this day, whenever a Fond du Lao man sees the story he smiles broadly and thinks his beloved town is being avenged. It is no wonder that such tales nake people refuse to believe that there is any such city.—New York Times.

A PANIC-PROOF SYSTEM

New York Bankers Ever Ready to Avert Disaster.

The Government Treasure House a Miniature Jall-How the Country Is Saved From Financial Calamitics-Formation of Banking Pools,

Amia the vicissitudes of Black Fridays and Blue Thursdays, New York has developed a wonderful "panic-proof" system for restoring confidence at times of financial distrust. It has been the growth of years, and more than once has saved the country from ruin and woe. For when banks in the metropolis become disturbed and sound a note of alarm, uneasing telegrams and long-distance messa The result is consternation and universal To make the "panic-proof" process ef-

fective the banks have provided facilities of the highest mechanical excellence. Of

these the beautiful building of the Clearthese the beautiful building of the Clear-ing House stands as the fortress of New York's banking strength. Thither the great banks send their millions every morning, effecting the exchanges expeditiously without the loss of a cent. In panicky times the Clearing House is the centre of relief work from which ance first emanates. Half a dogen financlers, composing the Clearing House committee, with Managers Sherer and Gilpin, supervise the system which has been reduced to the precision of a great me in the routine work between the banks.

The building is of marble, resting upon a miniature "jail," which is the most interesting portion of the structure. The public is denied even a giance at the of this subterranean prison and the attendants themselves do not venture with-in alone. Thirty feet below street level a belonging to clearing house banks is storone here who speaks French?" One of ed. These vaults are practically two-the "boys" said, jokingly, "The Tattler story structures representing 315 tons of cold steel. A passageway, penetrated by peephoies, encircles all sides. Through ad-jacent corridors watchmen prowl during the night ready to shoot ((through the peepholes) at sight of an intruder. Steam pipes, too, are placed over the entrance could be put in agony at a given signal. Other safeguards have also been provided, but the attendants affect a faraway look when you ask for particulars. For prudential reasons they are not discl-The vaults were built in 1897 with capacity for \$175,000,000 (350 tons) in gold. The doors are examples of beautiful mechanism, with time-locking appliances glistening in polished brightness when exposed to view. All the experts in New York could not enter these vaults before the clocks released the boits at the hour appointed for opening. No one is allowed to enter them unless a member of the

clearing house committee be present. Every inch of the entire structure is kept under constant surveillance. At the street doors a policeman confronts you and a uniformed attendant learns the nature of your business. Upstairs you go through a similar ordeal and enter the manager's quarters where the public en-closure is separated from the private offices. Here one or two officers are on guard all the time to look out for sneak thieves and the long-haired individual who wants a million or two in double-quick time!

their missing guest sweeping one of the
Such fanatics have been specially provided for, and if insistent may never leave the building alive; they can be killed the instant they expose their dynamite view. Such safeguards are essential for the safety of men who have millions to look after, and since anarchists are roamequently, he was rather pleased than ing everywhere the "crank killer" has become an important adjunct of modern

banking equipment. Uncle Sam's treasure-house-the United States subtreasury-at Wall Street, Nas-sau and Pine streets, is of course the real fountain head of New York's money sup-ply. Of all Government buildings this is the most interesting on account of its history and the safeguards undertaken to protect it from mob violence and any other sort of outward attack. It is a veriother peculiarly persistent names, like table arsenal, equipped with ammunition Kalamazoo or Sing Sing, which make for a long seige and surmounted by steel themselves conspicuous, but no one of turrets from which men could command everything in sight for miles around. A marble canopy overhanging both en-trances, with little holes here and there, adds to the architectural effect and serves an altogether useful purpose. Between this canopy and the roof accommodation for fifty men is provided, so that in case of insurrection they could look down upon those foreing an entrance and at the critithe same and of the abbey, and to dis-pose of the places to the nobles, etc.

He asked no fees for performing his imexists, although a glance at the map of The third story contains a first-class arsenal, equipped

breechloading, 45-callbre carbines; one hundred 45-calibre Colt's revolvers, and three five-bore and one eight-bore gatting tuns, and 22,000 rounds of ammun And it is not a "show" arsenal, either. Once a week the guns are overhauled curefully examined. If a trigger is out some harum-scarum mob is popping away at the building. Outside the arsenal iron shutters lead to the turrets, where dozens of men could repair at a moment's The structure is fire and mobproof throughout, and stands on the site where George Washington took his eath

Every "boom movement" costs Uncle iom a handsome sum in replacing mutilated currency. While a greenback genvery active, small notes may be used up in half that time. New York banks turn them into the sub-ttreasury by the thousands, and in busy seasons Government officials send them on to Washington at the rate of \$4,000,000 a week.

During the prosperous times preceding panic days when the vaults are piled high with valuables, New York's financial dis e seen everywhere, mingling with bankers and sper dators, sizing up everything in sight. A day or so before Thursday," when the curbstone brokers were doing a thriving business, pickpockets were observed in the crowd. ous, twitching eyes were taking in their actions, awaiting the critical moment. It came. Just as one of the thieves had deftly put his hand into another man's pocket there was a plunge, a cry, and a short struggle. An instant later the detectives had the fellows in irons, hurrying them off to the police station.

ing them off to the police station. A thousand passers-by, looking on, learned that the way of the trunsgressor was hard.

And the banks have a detective system all their own. It is a private affair, operated on the mutual plan to run down forgers and expert check-raisers. When a small-potatoes bank out West loses \$1.000 through one of these men it reports the venture to a secret committee, which looks into the case at once. If it has the ear-marks of a professional, the case is given to detectives and the search begins in adjacent cities. Records are kept of the whereabouts of all bank criminals, and as soon as they are liberated from prison they are followed. If a bank is mulcted within their territory they are taken into custody and made to account for themselves. This sort of surveillance has kept most of the swindlers where they can do little harm.—Boston Transcript.

(From the Chicago Record-Herald.)
"Yes," he said, "I have a coustn who was quite a hero in the war with Spain."
"Oh," she gayly replied, "I shall not hold that against you. There is a hiot on my escutcheon, too. One of my uncles was lynched out West for horse stealing."